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MR. SPEAKER :—" The Leader of the House has consulted the Leader of the Opposition and other party leaders before bringing in this motion."

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" In the motion there is no mention of the non-official business. It means only official business will come up tomorrow. In whatever way rule 24 is read, it says nothing about the non-official business. It should be clear in writing and not merely in the word of the Hon. Minister."

MR. SPEAKER :—" After mutual understanding, Government have agreed to take up non-official business in the evening."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I suppose my word is more important than any formal mention of this in the motion. I gave the assurance that we would sit in the evening from 3 p.m. to take up the non-official business. I hope he will be satisfied with my word."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' That rule 24 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 2nd April 1953.' "

The motion was carried.

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, are we sitting today till 7 in the night? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We would like to sit till 7 o'clock because we have assembled only at 3 p.m."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" We can sit till the Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, is over."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We can finish all the Bills if Mr. Venkateswarlu co-operates."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Venkateswarlu will not co-operate under any circumstances."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA :—" When will this sitting come to a close, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I was hoping to finish all the business by the 4th April. But we may have to sit on the 6th and 7th April also."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS LIGNITE (ACQUISITION OF LAND) BILL, 1953.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, and move—

' That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

[Dr. U. Krishna Rao]

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Sir, the need for this Bill and its provisions is mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill. As Members are aware, the industrial development of the State in many directions is held up for want of adequate supplies of fuel at reasonable cost. The exploitation of lignite will help not merely in supplying fuel to the industries and for domestic use, for generation of power and for railways, but will also help in the establishment of several new industries. The work on the pilot project has commenced on the 5th March and work is proceeding with speed. As and when the project is completed and lignite is successfully mined, the area of 100 square miles in which it lies, will acquire a new value. This value should not be exploited by the owners or by the transferees who have done nothing to earn it and the exploitation of lignite should be at a cost which is economic. The Bill therefore freezes the value at the average price of this land before the mining operations were started in 1947. This value will be only in respect of land Government themselves may require."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration at once.'

" Is the hon. Member, Sir Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah, moving his amendments? "

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" I am not moving my amendment, Sir."

* SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.'

" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிற மசோதாவிலுள்ள முக்கியமான இந்த அம்சங்கள் என்னவென்று புரிந்துக்கொள்ள முடியாத நிலையில் சபையில் பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இது மட்டும் அல்ல; கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அந்த மசோதாவிற்குத் திருத்தம் கூட கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள்; அதிலிருந்து சர்க்காரே இன்னும் சரியான முடிவிற்கு வந்து விட்டார்களா என்று என்னால் புரிந்துக்கொள்ள முடியவில்லை. ஆகையால் இந்த மசோதாவை உடனடியாக நிறைவேற்றாமல் அதை ஒரு பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு விட்டு பிறகு சட்டமாகக் கொண்டு வந்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The amendment of Sri S. Ramalingam falls through for want of a seconder."

" The hon. Member, Sri D. Seetharamaiah, may move his amendments formally and then the motion as well as the amendments will be before the House for discussion."

* SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.'

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion.' "

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SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANI :—Sir, I second the amendments moved by my hon. Friend, Sri D. Seetharamiah."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motions moved—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.'

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion.'

" Now, the motion as well as the amendments are before the House for discussion."

* SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill ^{4 p.m.} is a very important measure and affects the interests of several hundreds (An hon. Member: 'Several thousands'). My hon. Friend says that the interests of several thousands of peasant families will be affected and I agree and therefore, this Bill has got to be studied deeply. For that purpose, it has got to be sent to a Select Committee so that a certain number of picked people might subject the Bill to a thorough scrutiny, go into the *pros* and *cons* of the measure and come to a proper decision. As I said at the beginning, there are a number of small peasants owning small bits of lands and their interests will have to be safeguarded because the acquisition value of the land that will be paid to them will not at all be adequate and they must be paid more. In order to consider all these things and to safeguard the interests of the small peasants owning small bits of land, I wish this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee."

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to clear the doubts of hon. Members. Let me assure hon. Members that there is nothing complicated in this Bill and it is a very simple measure. The fact that lignite has been available in this area has been known to the residents ever since 1947 and what we say is this. If and when the Government want to acquire the lands, let there be no speculation and let there be no increase in the price of the land as a result of the discovery of lignite in this area. That is all what is asked for and after all, we may not acquire even an inch of land and if we do acquire, the price, it is laid down, should be the price prevailing when the mining operations were started in that area in 1947. Nobody's interests will be harmfully affected and I feel, therefore, there is no necessity to send the Bill to the Select Committee. I oppose the motion, Sir."

* SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the argument adduced by the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill is not at all convincing. Many small peasants who are owning lands in that area will be paid only a certain amount of compensation according to the rule and because the land is a very valuable land, I feel that the ordinary rules of compensation should not apply to it and more

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compensation should be paid and that is why I suggest that the Bill should be studied in all its aspects by a Select Committee and urge it should go before a Select Committee."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.' "

The amendment was put and lost.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The next question is—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion.' "

The amendment was put and lost.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The original motion is—

' That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration at once.' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will take the Preamble and Clause 1 at the end. Now the motion is—

' That clause 2 do stand part of the Bill.' "

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move the amendment standing in my name—

' At the end of sub-clause (1) of clause 2 insert the following proviso :—

" Provided that the exploitation, working and marketing of the lignite deposits and of the lignite coal in the said areas shall not be entrusted by the Government, wholly or in part, to any concern, managing agency or individual of non-Indian origin or nationality.' "

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" I second the amendment, Sir."

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is said that the fact that lignite is available in South Arcot has been known for a pretty long time and the officers of the Mining Department of the Government of India have been saying that lignite is available in South Arcot. There was an Industrial Planning Committee appointed by the last Government and they recommended that this lignite should be taken out and the power houses in this State should be driven by this fuel for purposes of generating electricity. A number of interpellations have been raised both in this House and in the Council and the Government

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have been pressed ever since to start the operations. The Government have for some time been saying that they will do it; they said so for a year and later on they said that they had applied to the United States of America for financial assistance and that under the Truman Aid Programme, the question of lignite in South Arcot and of iron in Salem will be taken up and worked. This was somewhere in 1949. From that time to this day the I.C.S. Officers of the Development Department have been painting glorious tales about lignite. There have also been attempts to sabotage the working of lignite because we were told at one time that the deposits were between two layers of water and that if we begin to take them out, the entire lignite will be lost. We were placed on the horns of a dilemma and were also told that nothing can be done. From what has happened since 1947, it looks as if there are interests at work which want to see that the industrialization of South India is definitely thwarted. Well, Sir, this is not anything new. We know that particularly the mining industry has been thwarted for centuries and the British Imperialists have always been telling us that this country will have to be merely an agricultural country supplying the necessary raw materials for the industries for the foreign countries; that is how industrialization has become impossible. Arguments there have been that there are not sufficient technical personnel here to bring up the lignite from the mines. In this connection, a number of experts have been invited to see whether lignite can be brought out. I may tell you, Sir, that many of these experts belong to the United States of America. You must also know, Sir, that in the United States of America there are a number of scientific investigators who are virtually the paid employees of the big Trusts. These Big Trusts, it must be known, Sir, do not want any kind of industrialization which would compete with the industries of their master's and of their master's Trust. That is why these people everywhere have been raising number of objections to the industrialization of other countries, not merely in India but even in the United States of America. Let us take the case of the development of hydro-electric power. A number of scientific investigators who have interests in electrical concerns have been telling the people that hydro-electric power cannot be developed in the United States of America. What is the reason why they put up this proposition as a thesis coming from scientific investigators? It is because with the development of hydro-electric power, the price of power will go down and the existing engineering concerns which are engaged in the production of power would lose heavily. That is why they put it up as a scientific thesis that the development of hydro-electric power in that country cannot be made. Similarly also, most of these experts who have been coming from the United States of America or from those countries which are satellites of that country, have been telling us that this is a very big process and the difficulties are many . . .

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MR. SPEAKER :—" I wish to know from the hon. Member how this is relevant to the clause under discussion. Let the hon. Member finish his speech. I will hear the Leader of the House also and give a ruling later on."

4-10
p.m.

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like to say that here we are trying to develop a national industry and we are very much interested in seeing that the industry remains in the hands of our Government. We are very particular in that respect."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member's amendment does not fit in here. The hon. Member must move a separate motion. That is my point."

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" My point is that the whole industry must be managed by this Government. My amendment is relevant in this respect, viz., that because we are passing a particular Bill we will have to see that the Government which is responsible to the people and to this House actually manages it."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Still I do not consider it relevant."

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" It is very relevant for the following reasons. Here we are discussing about the acquisition of lands from the peasants for developing the lignite industry. Before this House passes this Bill, we must know actually whether these lands which are going to be taken away from the peasants will remain in the hands of our own Government and our Nation. We also want to know whether the Government want to purchase these lands and whether it is in their interest to do so in view of their present state of finances. What Mr. Krishna Rao wants, in his amendment, is that this industry should not be placed in the hands of foreign authorities, foreign imperialists and foreign capitalists. We must be given the guarantee that these lands will not be placed in the hands of foreign financiers."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Anyway, the amendment does not fit in here. If the hon. Member wants, he can ask for a guarantee at the end."

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" If the Chair thinks that it is not proper to move an amendment to clause 2 now and that it should be moved at the end, I request the Chair and the Government to help us in adding a clause to the Bill at the appropriate stage. Sir, unless we know that this industry will be developed by our own national financiers and in our own interests, Government cannot expect us to raise our hands in support of this Bill. We are not going to join hands with American or British financiers in running this industry for it will be to the detriment of our national interests."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is not relevant to the point at issue, because clause 2 refers only to acquisition of lands in lignite-bearing areas."

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* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, the idea is that the gentlemen who are putting up this opposition to the Bill, fear that the national interests . . . ”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ Natural fear.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ Natural from one point of view because of your temperament but not natural as I understand it. The idea is that this Bill should be opposed because if this Bill is passed and the mining process is facilitated, then we do not know what will happen to the mining industry, whether it would be done departmentally by the Government or handed over to others and if to others, to whom it may be given and if given to anybody at what price the coal will be sold and so on. The object of the Opposition is that the Government must state entirely what they have in view in regard to the manufacture of lignite and the mining procedure before they get the approval of this House for this simple measure against speculation. This is the analysis of the Opposition's point of view.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ I would like to mention that it is not correct.” (Interruption from Sri K. Krishna Rao.)

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I have allowed the Hon. Chief Minister to have his say in the matter.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ The hon. Member Mr. Krishna Rao says that what the Hon. Chief Minister has said is a misrepresentation of his speech.”

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ If I analyse a wrong thing thoroughly, it does appear to be misrepresentation. I analysed the idea thoroughly that to-day when we want to stop speculation and get authority from the House for that, we must lay bare our entire programme, not only if we have a programme but even if we have not considered it. We must make commitments and then proceed with this ‘no speculation’ Bill. I can only describe it as the height of unthinking opposition to any progress. Because if this Bill is opposed on this ground and the Opposition succeed in their attempt, what would happen will be that the speculation will go up. Instead of preventing the Government from going wrong, it would allow the Government to be completely cheated by speculators. Therefore, I submit it is obvious that it is quite irrelevant to this Bill.”

(Sri T. Nagi Reddi rose from his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I cannot allow the same hon. Member to speak a number of times on the same matter.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The point is, we want this Bill to be passed if it is in the interests of the country. By passing this Bill, we do not want the Government to get into trouble later on. We want this Bill to be passed in the interest of the peasantry and the peasantry

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should not be cheated by any one. I am not questioning about the price of the coal and how this industry may work but I am only questioning whether these lands will be mortgaged and handed over to foreign capitalists and Dollar Imperialism."

MR. SPEAKER :—" After hearing Sri Krishna Rao, I will ask the Hon. Minister to reply and then I will give my ruling."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" It is a sheer misrepresentation to say that I want to aid speculators. In fact this question has a history behind it. There has been considerable delay in the matter and there has also been the declaration by the Government that this industry is pledged to Dollar Imperialism."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I do not like to go into the merits of the question. In my opinion, it is irrelevant to the subject matter. Let me now hear the Hon. Minister."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" With great respect to Mr. Krishna Rao's powers of understanding the provisions of this Bill, I wish to say that this is a Bill dealing with the acquisition of lands. With regard to the working of the mines and other matters of industrial policy, of course, the Government are always guided by the directions given by the Legislature. But when we are discussing this Bill, it is absolutely irrelevant to consider any policy other than the one evolved in this Bill. As long as hon. Members like Sri Nagi Reddi and Sri Krishna Rao are here to protect the national interest, even if we were to sell away the national interests, they would be protected! That is quite different. But the point for consideration is whether this amendment can fit in here within the scope of the Bill. This Bill is purely intended for the acquisition of lands for the purpose of running the lignite industry and not for any other purpose. The amendment of Sri Krishna Rao is completely alien to the scope of the Bill. I, therefore, submit that it is quite irrelevant."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The amendment of the hon. Member, Sri Krishna Rao, is not relevant to clause 2 of the Bill, and I rule it out of order."

" For the same reason, I rule the amendment of Sri Seetharamiah also out of order."

4-20
p.m.

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, I have given notice of an amendment which has also been circulated for the words ' 28th April 1947 ' wherever they occur the words ' 1st April 1947, be substituted. ' "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This amendment only relates to the Preamble. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister for Industries has got to say anything."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Nothing, Sir."

Clause 2 was put and carried.

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Clause 3.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is—

' That clause 3 do stand part of the Bill.' "

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" Sir, I will move the amendment standing in my name."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Here again, there is some difficulty. The amendment given notice of is for the addition of a new clause, clause 3-A. I will now put clause 3 to the vote of the House and then take up the new clause proposed by the hon. Member, Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah."

Clause 3 was put and carried.

New clause 3-A.

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

' *That after the existing clause 3 the following be inserted as clause 3-A :—*

" 3-A. If the land is owned by the person who owns 3 acres on the whole, that landowner may get the market value whichever is much."

" In doing so, I wish to congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister on bringing forward this legislation and undertaking this scheme which will provide a better living for the people of the local area. At the same time, I must also point out that whenever development schemes for the Andhra area, for instance, the development of electricity projects, are considered, the plea is put forward that the State is going to be divided and that there is a huge deficit and therefore these schemes should be put aside.

" Apart from this question my point is that the small landholder must be protected. I know what happened in regard to the Tungabhadra Project. Monied people purchased lands for a hundred or two hundred rupees from the poor people and then sold them for three or four thousand rupees. I agree with the Hon. Minister for Industries that speculation should be prevented but, it will do no good to the poor people, who have only 3 or 4 acres of land as their means of livelihood, to say that they should not get the market rate for their lands. I therefore request that the Government should give some protection to these poor landowners who own only three acres. If a man owns three acres here and some more elsewhere, he need not be given this protection. I have absolutely no objection if the Government take over some land for a purpose which will benefit the local people, and with a request to the Government to show the same attitude towards the development of the Andhra area, though it is to be separated, I request the House to support this amendment."

The amendment was duly seconded.

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* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever may be the intention of the Hon. the Mover of this amendment, this amendment will create more difficulties and, in addition, the words ‘ If the land is owned by the person who owns 3 acres on the whole,’ have absolutely no meaning. Even, if it is the intention of the mover that a person owns three acres of land at the time of the acquisition, the net result will be that persons owning large extents of land will parcel them out into three acres, bit by bit, and sell them out. The words ‘ that landowner may get the market value whichever is much ’ also do not convey any meaning. What is the date on which the market value is to be fixed? Nothing is stated in this amendment. I therefore submit that if this amendment to clause 3 as proposed by the mover is accepted, it will create further difficulties. It also does not convey any meaning and I would therefore request the hon. Gentleman to withdraw this amendment. There is no question of any distinction between the rich landowner and the poor landowner. All will be given a fair value for their lands as on the 28th April 1947 and there is no purpose in going in for further difficulties. This amendment is quite unnecessary.”

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—“ Sir, if it is only a question of the wording of the amendment, I would request the Hon. the Finance Minister to help me and the House in re-drafting it, and thus help the poor peasants who are suffering. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, was seen shaking his head.) If the Hon. the Finance Minister cannot help me in redrafting the amendment, I cannot also help him and I am not going to withdraw my amendment.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Sir, I have opposed the amendment on other grounds also.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ As the hon. Member is not withdrawing his amendment, I will put it to the vote of the House. The question is—

‘ That the following be added as a new clause 3-A after the existing clause 3 :—

“ 3-A. If the land is owned by the person who owns 3 acres on the whole, that landowner may get the market value whichever is much.” ”

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 4.

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The motion is—

‘ That clause 4 do stand part of the Bill.’ ”

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ Sir, the only point I wish to mention is that in all legislations recently passed there was a very good provision that the power to make rules should also be given to the Legislative Assembly.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member is referring to delegated legislation. There is a proposal to have a Committee to go into delegated legislation. The Sub-Committee can sit for two or three days and may then consider rules regarding the proposed delegated legislation."

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"Sir, my point is that power to make rules should not be vested in those few people who draw them up. The Legislature should also have powers to alter or amend these rules. I well remember that in the previous Bills there was a special provision, which the Ministry had also accepted, conferring the power to make rules on the Legislature also."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Sir, the point raised by the hon. Member, Sri T. Nagi Reddi, is quite simple. Clause 4 states—

'The State Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.'

"This means that, whatever the rules that are passed, the Assembly will have nothing to do with them and they will come into effect immediately. I agree that in respect of the other Bills there was a provision that these rules shall be placed on the table of the House for not less than fourteen days as soon as possible after they are made and shall be subject to such modifications as the Assembly may make during the session in which they are so laid. I am prepared to have this amendment."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"I am thankful to the Ministry for the same."

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to suggest one thing which the Government should take note of, namely, that on several occasions in acquiring lands for any purpose, the trade or industry is not promptly carried on. I, therefore, request that as soon as the land is acquired for purposes of industrialization, the Government should take up the execution of these industries promptly without letting the agriculturists raise crops or any other thing on the lands."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know on which clause the hon. Member is speaking."

4-30
p.m.

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—"That is only my suggestion to the Government."

SRI C. V. K. RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are very many points, very pertinent to this Bill, which were not clarified by the Hon. Minister in charge of Industries and Labour while moving the Bill. He did not enlighten the House clearly about the scope of this industry. For example, he did not tell the House how much area of land had already been acquired by the Government, what quantity of lignite had been mined so far, what was the area of land that was proposed to be acquired by the Government out of the area of 100 square miles where the existence of

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lignite had been revealed, etc. It has been said that about 2,000 million tons of lignite are expected to be mined over an area of 100 square miles. I would also like to know how much of the land in this area of 100 square miles is held by big landlords.

“ Ever since 1947, the Government have been thinking of mining this area. I would like to know why the Government have taken five long years to come forward with this Bill. Mr. Krishna Rao has pointed out that during this period of five years the Government have been trying to find out some big industrialists in this country or outside this country to hand over this vast industry to them. If this is not the reason, I should like to know why the Government have delayed bringing forward this Bill so long. I would like the Hon. Minister to enlighten the House on these points.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Mr. Speaker. Sir, I move the following amendment :—

That the existing clause 1 be renumbered as sub-clause 4 (1) and the following be added as sub-clause (2) :—

“(2) All rules made under this section shall be laid for not less than fourteen days before the Legislative Assembly of the State, as soon as possible after they are made and shall be subject to such modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as that Assembly may make during the session in which they are so laid.” ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Motion moved—

“ That the existing clause 4 be renumbered as sub-clause 4 (1) and the following be added as sub-clause (2) :—

“(2) All rules made under this section shall be laid for not less than fourteen days before the Legislative Assembly of the State, as soon as possible after they are made and shall be subject to such modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as that Assembly may make during the session in which they are so laid.” ”

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to answer the points raised by Sri C. V. K. Rao though they are not absolutely relevant to the Bill before the House, so that the doubts and fears of my Friend may be removed. These lignite-bearing areas extend over an area of 200 square miles. We have now been working in an area of about 2½ square miles. The delay has been caused on account of the technical difficulty of getting lignite free from water of which there is a superficial layer as well as a layer underneath. During these five years we have been conducting experiments to take out the lignite lying between these two layers of water. On the 5th March, I myself inaugurated the quarrying of a trial pit 550 feet by 550 feet at ground level and about 180 feet deep to expose a lignite surface of 100 feet by 100 feet. The delay has not been caused on account of the Government trying to get some big industrialists

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in this country or from outside for undertaking this mining industry. It has been caused only on account of the technical difficulty in getting the lignite. I can assure my Friend that there has been nothing behind the actions of the Government in this matter."

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" On a point of information, Sir. On a previous occasion, when I asked the Government whether the rules placed on the table of the House relating to the Motor Vehicles Act could be discussed on the floor of the House, and altered or amended, if necessary, the latter said that the rules placed on the table of the House could not be altered or amended. Now the Government say that the rules framed under the Bill now under discussion shall be subject to modifications by way of repeal or amendment by the Assembly. I wish to know if this is permitted."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Assembly has been given power to modify the rules in the clause itself. Now the question is—

' That the existing clause 4 be renumbered as sub-clause 4 (1) and the following be added as sub-clause (2) :—

" (2) All rules made under this section shall be laid for not less than fourteen days before the Legislative Assembly of the State, as soon as possible after they are made and shall be subject to such modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as that Assembly may make during the session in which they are so laid." "

The amendment was carried.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will now put clause 4 as amended to the vote of the House. The question is—

' That clause 4 as amended do from part of the Bill.' "

The motion was put and carried.

THE SCHEDULE.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I beg to move the following amendment to the Schedule :—

' In the Schedule to the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, omit the following entry, namely :—

Serial number.	Village number.	Name of village.
46	55	Parvathipuram.

and renumber the other entries suitably.'

" In the amendment I have given notice of I have mentioned the names of two other villages, namely, Sepplanatham and Managathi, but I am not including them in the amendment I have moved. I wish to explain briefly why this village Parvathipuram should be removed from the Schedule. Parvathipuram is

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a very big religious centre and is the headquarters of the Ramalingaswami Mutt. Thousands and thousands of people flock to this village to have a darshan of the 'Divine Light' or 'the Jyothi' as they call it. We want this village to be excluded from the lignite mining area on sentimental grounds as we do not want to wound the religious feelings of the people."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' In the Schedule to the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, omit the following entry, namely :—

Serial number.	Village number.	Name of village.
46	55	Parvathipuram.

and renumber the other entries suitably.' "

The amendment was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will put the Schedule as amended to the vote of the House. The question is—

' That the Schedule as amended do form part of the Bill.' "

The motion was put and carried.

Preamble and clause 1.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I find that three amendments have been given notice of, one by Sri K. Krishna Rao, one by Sri S. Vemayya and another by Sri D. Seetharamiah. They read as follows :—

' Sri K. Krishna Rao's amendment—

" Between the first and second paragraphs of the Preamble insert the following paragraph :—

' And whereas it is now decided to cancel the previous decision of the Government, stated in the Madras Legislative Council on 17th April 1951 to include the investigation under President Truman Point Four Programme, and to constitute a committee of four Engineers to advise on the lignite operations ; and it is now decided that the State Government will assume sole rights and responsibilities in this behalf.' "

' Sri S. Vemiah's amendment—

" In the first paragraph of the Preamble, for the words ' South Arcot district ' substitute the word ' State '."

' Sri D. Sitaramiah's amendment—

" Between the first and second paragraphs of the Preamble insert the following paragraph :—

' And whereas it is necessary to utilize the exploited lignite exclusively and entirely for the development of industries in Andhra, Tamil and Korala areas of this State.' "

" As they do not come within the scope of this Bill, I propose to rule them out of order."

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" What the hon. Member Sri Krishna Rao wants in his amendment is that this lignite industry should not be placed in the hands of the foreign interests. When a similar amendment under clause 2 was under discussion, the

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Hon. Mr. Speaker was pleased to say that if the hon. Member wanted he could move it in the end. The suggestion of the hon. Member can be made into a separate clause by itself and added on to the Bill. I want the amendment of Mr. Krishna Rao to be discussed."

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" We have got every right to bring this matter before the House, because the Government had stated in the Madras Legislative Council on 17th April 1951 that they had decided to include the investigation of this industry under President Truman Point Four Programme. We only want that the Government should actually take up the responsibility by working up this industry and we do not want that it should be handed over to any foreign concern. Are we to understand that nobody has got any interest in this lignite industry except the Government? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" In the opinion of the Chair, the amendment is out of order. I am therefore ruling the amendment of Sri Krishna Rao out of order.

" Then comes the amendment of the hon. Member, Sri Sitararniah. I fear that also will meet with the same fate. Let me first hear what the hon. Member has to say."

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* SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" Sir, my amendment is quite different from that of the previous speaker. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to this Bill, the Government have said that the object of the exploitation of lignite is for the industrialization of this State. That being so, I want that this lignite should be utilized for the benefit of the entire State and I am only clarifying this by my amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member wants to enlarge the scope of the Bill. So his amendment is out of order."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" Then, Sir, by my amendment I want to bring within the scope of this Bill not merely lignite but all minerals, so that the Government may not have to bring in another Bill for other minerals."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This amendment also seeks to enlarge the scope of the Bill. So this also is out of order. Then, I want to know what Mr. C. V. K. Rao wants to say with regard to his amendment."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, I move the following amendment :—

' For the words and figures " 28th April 1947 " wherever they occur in the Bill, the words and letters " 1st April 1947 " be substituted.'

" The reasons I advance are as follows : The Government have brought this Bill with the idea of avoiding speculation in land in the area. The actual operations have begun on 28th April 1947. That

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is, at any rate, what the Government say. All the same it is better to fix the date a little bit in advance, so that the people may know what the Government's intentions are. What generally happens is, somehow the intentions of the Government are known by some interested, profit-making persons and they purchase large extents of land in the concerned area with the object of selling them to the Government at a high price later. I fear even before 28th April 1947 several people would have purchased large tracts of land in this area with a view to earn a profit by selling them later on to the Government. So at least to cover some of those cases, if not all the cases, I have suggested 1st April. It happens also to be the commencement of the financial year. So, it will be easy to reckon the value of the land from that date. So, I hope Government will accept my amendment."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" I second it."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, there is no material difference whatsoever between the 28th April and 1st April, so long as our object is to prevent speculation in this case. The commencement of the financial year has no relation to the question of speculation. So there is no point in the amendment of the hon. Member. Further there is nothing to choose between the two dates. So the date in the Bill may stand as it is. The hon. Member does not support his amendment on any other ground. So we cannot accept his amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is better the hon. Member withdraws his amendment."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Yes, Sir; I withdraw my amendment." The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Then comes the amendment of Mr. Vemiah. I do not understand his amendment; it conveys no meaning to me."

* SRI S. VEMIAH :—" Sir, I shall explain myself. Sir, in my amendment I suggest that for the words 'are specified in the Schedule', the words 'shall be published in *Fort St. George Gazette* from time to time according to the suitability and feasibility of the exploitation of the minerals' be substituted. Sir, to-day, as the title of the Bill indicates, the Bill operates only in South Arcot district and that too with reference to lignite only. Suppose in a day or two or a few days hence, copper or other mineral is found. Then, Government will have to bring in another piece of legislation for that. So to provide for such cases also in this Bill I have suggested my amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member wants to enlarge the scope of the Bill. So I rule it out of order."

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

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THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

‘ That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, as amended, be passed into law.’ ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The motion before the House is—

‘ That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, as amended, be passed into law.’ ”

* SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Bill of this nature is long overdue. We had been expecting it ever since 1947. If only this Bill had been brought forward at that time, our forests all along would not have been denuded of trees to be utilized for domestic consumption, for running buses and industries. For a good lot of brown coal would have been available all these days. Even now, Sir, I beg to submit, I do not place any confidence in the assurance of the Government. For, their acts till now have led me to that conclusion. For example, take the case of the nationalization of motor transport. The Government said that their policy was nationalization of motor transport. They said so in the year 1950 or 1951—I do not exactly remember the year. Later on they simply dropped that idea. Then, with regard to Salem iron ore, they said they would start mining that mineral. But they have not proceeded with it. So also with regard to these lignite operations, the Finance Minister has been telling us that if the cost of producing a ton of lignite in South Arcot goes up beyond Rs. 30—for that is the price at which Bengal coal is supplied to us—he would not take up that business. Sir, my submission is that this lignite is of national importance to us, or at least to our State, whether we remain separated or together. For, this industry together with the Salem iron ore will lead to very great industrial progress. That is why we here have been saying all along that industrialization of the State is not going on as it ought to be. I wish our Government go ahead with this industry at greater speed, disregarding the advice of many of the so-called technical experts, who tell us that lignite coal may not be good—for that was said about the lignite coal in South Arcot—as it lies embedded between two layers of water. In fact, Sir, at one of the Press conferences one of the representatives of the Press asked whether there is not a good prospect of generating power from this lignite coal; and also, another representative suggested whether there is not a prospect of power development by exploitation of lignite deposit as we have good iron ore in Salem and lignite coal in South Arcot. So there is a good prospect of our having in South India an area like the Ruhr. So, Sir, I say that we are very anxious that this particular area should be taken up, that the mining should be seriously proceeded with, that this particular industry should not be pledged to any foreigner and that this should be carried on only as a national concern by the Government themselves. We do not want them even to give it to any industrial concern or any capitalist in this country itself. We want it to be

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carried on as a national concern by the State itself. If only Government took measures seriously, a lot of unemployment in the country could be solved. Here, I would suggest one other thing to Government. Every six months a report containing the work carried out in the Salem iron ore area and in the South Arcot lignite mining area should be placed on the table of the Assembly, so that we may all know how things are progressing. Let this be taken as an official move; for the Hon. Chief Minister himself has said that this should not be allowed to be delayed. So, Sir, I wish the industrial resources of our State are developed. We cannot solve the question of unemployment without taking up industrial development. So it is in order to avoid any delay in the solution of important problems facing the State that I have suggested that a report on the progress of work done should be called for once every six months and placed on the table of the House. Finally, Sir, I hope, and I expect Government to take up this work seriously, develop it and industrialize South India."

4-50
p.m.

* SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir,

ഈ വൈകിട വേളയിലെങ്കിലും ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു ലിഗ്നൈറ്റ് ബിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നത് ഏല്പാടുകൾ ചെയ്ത് ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു എന്നുള്ളത് സന്തോഷജനകമാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഇത്രയും പ്രാധാന്യം അഹിഷ്ണുന്ന ഈ ചുമന്നു നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ കയ്യിൽനിന്ന് വിഭജനമായ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഭേദിച്ച നാല്പതുണ്ടാകും തുരങ്കം-വെക്കുന്ന ആളുകളുടെ കയ്യിൽ പോവുകയല്ല എന്ന് തീർച്ചയായും ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഉറപ്പു നൽകേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് എന്തിനും അത്തരത്തിൽ ഒരു ഉറപ്പു നൽകണം എന്ന് ചോദിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ നമ്മുടെ അനാദായം തീർച്ചയായും അത്തരത്തിൽ ഒരു ഉറപ്പു കിട്ടിയേ മതിയാവൂ എന്നുള്ളതാണ്."

MR. SPEAKER :—" In the third reading stage the hon. Member should speak only on the clauses of the Bill and should not bring in extraneous matters. Of course, it was open to him to speak on these matters in the first reading stage."

* SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, കാരണം 1947 ആഗസ്റ്റ് 15-ാം തീയതികൾക്കുശേഷം നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യം സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യമായിട്ട് ബ്രിട്ടീഷുകാരുടെ മൂലധനം കോമൻവെൽത്ത് മുതലായ കമ്പനികളിൽ ഇന്നും കെട്ടി കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ക്ഷാമ ബാധിത കൊടുക്കണം എന്ന് പറഞ്ഞിട്ടും ഈ കമ്പനിയിൽ അതു നിർത്തിവെച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്. മലബാറിൽ കോഴിക്കോട്ടുള്ള ഫൈവേയ്ക്കുനേക്കൻ കമ്പനി ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഹൈറൈറ്റുകൾ എന്ന് പറഞ്ഞിട്ടും ഒരു വിഭജന കമ്പനിക്ക് നേരിട്ടു നടത്താൻ കൊടുക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന് ആലോചന ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. പിന്നെ നാട്ടുകാരുടെ വമ്പിച്ച പ്രക്ഷോഭം വന്നതിനുശേഷമാണ് ഒരു ക്യാബിനറ്റ് കമ്മിറ്റി നിയോഗിക്കപ്പെടുകയും നാട്ടുകാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം അറിയുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ശേഷമാണ് ഗവണ്മെന്റുതന്നെ നേരിട്ടു നടത്താനുള്ള ഒരു തീരുമാനത്തിൽ എത്തിച്ചേർന്നത്. അതിനാൽ ഇത്തരത്തിൽ ഉള്ളതായ ഒരു ഉറപ്പു ഈ കാര്യത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെന്റ് നൽകേണ്ടതാണ് എന്ന് മാത്രമാണ് എനിക്ക് പറയാനുള്ളത്."

* SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Mr. Speaker, I am very particular that this lignite industry should be made into a very great industry of our country and I only wish we really bring forth immediately the requisite capital to make this industry a great success. We do believe that the industrialization of our country is one of the most important things which we must achieve to-day if we are to eradicate unemployment and do many other things

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which are important for our society. That is why we have had no intention of opposing this Bill at all. As a matter of fact, as Mr. K. Krishna Rao put it, let us not postpone the day as we did in 1947, to some other day. Let us take heart and do it as fast as possible. At this time the only point which should be the concern of the Ministry and also of the Members of the Assembly here is that we should be careful to see that the peasantry is in no way brought into trouble in the matter of acquisition of land. That is what we are afraid of because we know that in the history of the world, everywhere wherever industries develop, whether it is the oil industry or the steel industry, it has been the history of industries that they have developed by depriving the rights of the peasants achieved by the sweat of their brow. I found not long ago, while I was reading a book about the development of the Rockefeller industries written by H. G. Wells, how Rockefeller tried to cheat—and cheated very well—the peasants of the United States of America to build up the oil industry. I am sure the Government will not do it because the Government have actually brought forward a Bill which says that no speculation should take place and prices should be limited to a particular level. I hope the peasantry will be taken due care of by the Government and the peasants will in turn be also glad if the industry is developed, because the greater the industry the greater will be the development of our country and greater will be our national wealth also, so that we will be able to better our nation.

"Sir, there is one thing about which, of course, our Ministry does not expect me to speak. It is because either it has been referred to previously or because the Chief Minister got a bit angry because we raised a point of order. That is not at all the point. In fact we are very much interested in the development of industries. Hence we asked particularly whether the Government themselves are going to take up this industry and develop it or whether they are going to do it along with our own industrialists who will be able to give us capital or whether they have got any other modified proposal. I hope and feel that this industry should be developed as a national industry, because this is a very big and major industry and a heavy industry, which will be a mother industry to future industries in our State. I, therefore, except that this industry will particularly be brought into effect only with our own money and our own capital and to that end I hope the Ministry will work properly and not allow foreign interests to encroach upon the heavy industries in our country, because it is very dangerous so far as nationalization of industry in South India is concerned."

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"Sir, I am indeed thankful to hon. Members for their very valuable suggestions and good advice also. I can assure them that we consider speed as an essential factor in the development of this lignite mining. We are aware of the fact that the sooner we get this lignite out and the sooner we are able to market it, the sooner we will be able

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to start many more industries and help not only South India but perhaps the whole of India and put a new idea of revolutionising the whole industrial aspect on the country. I can assure hon. Members that to that end shall be directed all the activities of the Government.

“As to what exactly shall be the method of running it, I can assure hon. Members that we on this side are as much anxious to preserve national unity and national honour as anybody else. At present perhaps it is not opportune for us to discuss how it will be done, but I can assure hon. Members that national honour will be safeguarded by the Government with as much interest as hon. Members opposite have.

“Sir, I have only one more remark to make with respect to the statement made by Mr. Narayana Nambiyar. He talked in Malayalam and perhaps I am wrong in having understood him. But as I understood him, he was saying that the Cabinet Sub-Committee went to Calicut with the intention of handing over the Hydrogenation factory to a foreign firm, but that on account of the exertion of my hon. Friend we changed that idea. (Interruption.) I can assure my Friend that all this trouble could have been avoided if he had talked in English.”

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—“On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I did not say that the Cabinet Sub-Committee went to Calicut to hand over the Hydrogenation factory to a foreign firm. All I said was this. That was the only industry concerned that this State wanted to start in Malabar the Hydrogenation factory. There was a proposal to hand it over to a foreign firm. The Government appointed a Cabinet Sub-Committee and that Sub-Committee went there and we gave evidence before that Committee and people also made representations before that Committee and finally the Government decided that it was going to be continued by the Government themselves. That is what I said, Sir.”

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“I thank the hon. Member for the correction. Whatever it may be, even before representations had been made we decided to run it ourselves.

“Once again I thank the hon. Members for their suggestions and co-operation in the matter. I have nothing more to add.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘That the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, as amended be passed into law.’”

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.